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**CONFIDENTIAL**

**TRY Bulgaria**

DATE DISTR. 22 Dec 1948

SUBJECT **Bulgarian Purchases of Chemicals for  
its Rubber Industry**  
25X1A6a

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**SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.**

1. W.A.K. Glen, a British subject and traveling representative of Monsanto Chemicals Limited, Victoria Station House, London, S.W.1, recently arrived in Bulgaria at the invitation of Chemimport to discuss the purchase by Chemimport of rubber accelerator chemicals of which Monsanto Chemicals Company, St. Louis, is the largest producer in the world.
2. Chemimport immediately purchased approximately 70 tons of accelerator chemicals for sterling and then urgently inquired concerning the possibility of buying a "large quantity" (apparently with a value of approximately \$50,000) of carbon black for sterling, stating that they do not have the dollars needed to buy the product from the United States. Chemimport indicated that they have a great need for carbon black and did not reveal to Glen that they have received a U.S. export license for \$100,000 worth of carbon black from the National Carbide Company. Carbon black, according to source, is produced only in the United States.

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**Comment:** A representative of National Carbide Company has stated that an export license was granted for \$100,000 worth of carbon black. An official at the Directorate of Foreign Trade has described the deal both as a \$100,000 order and as a \$50,000 order. At the same time, it is known that Nikola Liakov, Belchev Street 8, Sofia, has been negotiating with the American firm of Hristo D. Kunev and Stan Stanchev, 1968 National Bank Building, Detroit 26, Michigan, to trade 62 tons of Bulgarian red pepper for 100 tons of active carbon black to be used in the Bulgarian rubber industry.)

3. Source regards the carbon black demands of the Bulgarians as in excess of their true needs and he suspects that its real destination is the Soviet Union which will need it in processing the vast quantities of rubber which they are now purchasing in Ceylon.

**CLASSIFICATION**

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